



MARAD Update



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Message from the Deputy Maritime Administrator

The Maritime Administration's staff's response to the overwhelming disasters wrought by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita has been efficient, levelheaded, and thorough. As such, MARAD moved quickly to actively support relief and recovery efforts in the regions affected by the storms.

The unprecedented and historical deployment of MARAD's Ready Reserve Force (RRF) marks the first time that the RRF has been activated to assist in recovery from domestic disasters. The *Cape Knox*, *Cape Kennedy*, *Diamond State*, and *Wright* offered assistance after Hurricane Katrina by providing supporting facilities and a temporary home for Port of New Orleans personnel, while the *Cape Victory* and *Cape Vincent* stood firm during Hurricane Rita by providing housing for emergency-response personnel and equipment for the city of Beaumont and surrounding areas.

Headquarters and Region staff activated the Ready Reserve Force ships and training ships in an expeditious manner, and I applaud their efforts. I am especially moved by the work of our people in the Central Region, many of whom were displaced from their own homes, who nonetheless tended selflessly to the work of the Agency and the nation. Information about conditions in the Gulf Coast was at a premium during this time of confusion, and we at MARAD responded quickly to our colleagues at DOT, to industry, and to the American people.

MARAD's people have shown their outstanding abilities and devotion to duty at a time when it counted.

I am proud to be associated with all of you. Congratulations on a job well done.

John Jamian

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